April 26, 2002

The U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street, N. W. Room 3117 Office of International Corporate Finance Mail Stop 3-9 Washington, D.C.20549 U. S. A.

Rule 12g3-2(b) Exemption of Kobe Steel, Ltd., File number:82-3371



Dear Madam/Sir:

In connection with Kobe Steel Ltd.'s exemption pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) from the registration and reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and in compliance with its ongoing requirements under Rule 12g3-2(b)(iii), please find enclosed a copy of the Company's release today covering

"Food Service Business to be Separated"

Thank you for your assistance in handling it as required.

Sincerely yours,

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MAY 1 4 2002

THOMSON FINANCIAL

Yoshio Kato Structured Finance Section

Finance Department

Kobe Steel, Ltd.

Jle 43

File number: 82-3311

Kobe Steel, Ltd. Tokyo Stock Exchange No. 5406

Food Service Business to be Separated

TOKYO (April 26, 2002) – Kobe Steel, Ltd. decided at its board of directors' meeting held today to transfer the food service business it operates at the Shiroyama Golf Club to Shiroyama Kaihatsu Kabushiki Kaisha, a subsidiary company. This transfer will be effective July 1, 2002.

1. Purpose of the Separation

The move of Kobe Steel's food service business at Shiroyama Golf Club to Shiroyama Kaihatsu_is intended to consolidate the food service business at golf courses to operate more effectively.

2. Outline of the Separation

(1) Schedule

Kobe Steel board of directors' approval

of separation agreement:

April 26, 2002

Shinko Kaihatsu board of directors' approval

of separation agreement:

May 14, 2002

Separation date:

July 1, 2002

Registration of separation:

July 1, 2002

(2) Method of Transfer

The business at Kobe Steel to be separated will be transferred to Shiroyama Kaihatsu, the entity that will continue the business. In accordance with the Commercial Code, this transfer will be conducted without approval at Kobe Steel's general shareholders' meeting.

(3) Issuance of New Shares

Shiroyama Kaihatsu will issue 1.9 million new ordinary shares to Kobe Steel.

(4) Change in Capital due to Transfer

Kobe Steel's net assets will not change as it will acquire new shares in Shiroyama Kaihatsu equivalent in value to the business to be separated.

• (5) Continuing Rights and Obligations
Shiroyama Kaihatsu will continue the rights and obligations of Kobe
Steel's food service business at the Shiroyama Golf Club. In addition to
Shiroyama Kaihatsu, Kobe Steel will also be responsible for the
outstanding liabilities of the business to be shifted.

3. Outline of the Company Continuing the Business

Name: Shiroyama Kaihatsu Kabushiki Kaisha

Business: Golf course management, landscape gardening services

Establishment: February 7, 1973

Head office: Kakogawa, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan

Capital: 495 million yen

Employees: 60

Equity: 75.2% held by Kobe Steel, Ltd.

Media Contact:

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